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December 3, 1997

BY COURIER

F. Andrew Turley, Esquire
Supervisory Attorney
Central Enforcement Docket
Federal Election Commission
999 E Street, N.W.
Room 657
Washington, D.C. 20463

Re: MUR 4689

Dear Mr. Turley:

This firm represents Salem Radio Network (SRN), producer and distributor of the Oliver North and Alan Keyes radio programs. We are preparing the response of SRN to the complaint of the California Democratic Party (CDP) which prompted initiation of the above-captioned matter. Attached is SRN's Statement of Designation of Counsel.

By this letter, we request on behalf of SRN a brief extension, from December 3, 1997, to December 15, 1997, to submit SRN's response. The Federal Election Commission's letter of November 12, 1997, notifying SRN of the CDP complaint, was received by SRN on November 18, establishing December 3, by terms of Section 111.6(a) of the Commission's rules, as SRN's response date.

Counsel received from SRN the Commission's November 12 letter and the attached CDP complaint on November 19. Counsel has preliminarily inquired into the matters raised in the CDP complaint, and has begun preparation of a response. However, both the intervention of the Thanksgiving Day holiday weekend and previous and unalterable commitments of counsel have precluded completion of a full examination of the CDP complaint and SRN's response. The brief extension requested, to December 15, will allow sufficient time to complete the response.

Dec 3 12 46 PM '97
FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

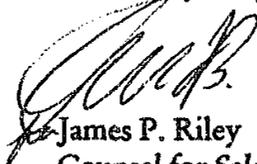
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F. Andrew Turley, Esquire
December 3, 1997
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This brief extension should not adversely affect the Commission's consideration of the matter, nor the interests of the complainant. In this regard, we point out that the CDP complaint was sent to the Commission in an envelope postmarked October 17, 1997, and was most likely received by the Commission no more than one week later. Under the terms of Section 111.5(a) of the Commission's rules, SRN ought to have been notified by the Commission by letter sent no later than October 29 that the CDP complaint had been filed. Presumably because the Commission required more than the time prescribed by that rule to conclude that the CDP complaint complied with Section 111.4 of the Commission's rules, and to gather information omitted from the CDP complaint (for example, SRN is nowhere identified in the complaint), the Commission did not send its letter notifying of the CDP complaint to SRN until November 12. This delay placed SRN and counsel in the position described above, of beginning examination of the complaint and preparation of SRN's response over the Thanksgiving Day holiday and with counsel committed to meeting immediate demands on his time.

The brief extension of time for SRN's response requested herein will serve the public interest in permitting SRN to submit a complete response, and should be granted.

Yours very truly,



James P. Riley
Counsel for Salem Radio Network

JPR:deb

REC'D - TELETYPE

STATEMENT OF DESIGNATION OF COUNSEL

MUR- 4689

NAME OF COUNSEL: James P. Riley, Esq.

FIRM: Fletcher, Heald & Hildreth, P.L.C.

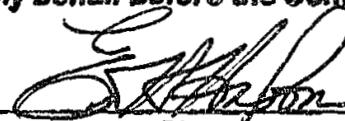
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FAX: (703) 812-0486

The above-named individual is hereby designated as my counsel and is authorized to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission and to act on my behalf before the Commission.

12/2/97
Date


Signature

RESPONDENT'S NAME: Salem Radio Network

ADDRESS: 545 E. John Carpenter Freeway, Suite 450
Irving, TX 75062

TELEPHONE: HOME() N/A

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